

U.S. Department of Justice U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Texas

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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May 19, 2008

DEFENDANT SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON IN CONNECTION WITH FORT DAVIS THEFT

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that in Pecos, Texas, Kirby Loren Amlee, age 36, of Robbins, North Carolina, formerly of Lajitas, Texas, was sentenced to 63 months in federal prison for his role in the burglary of the Fort Davis National Historical Site and Museum, the Hallie Stillwell Museum in Big Bend National Park, and the International Airport located at the Lajitas Resort in April 2006.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Robert Junell ordered that Amlee be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing his prison term as well as pay \$22,450.99 in restitution—\$21,809.99 to the Fort Davis National Historical Site and Museum and \$641.00 to the Lajitas Resort.

On July 18, 2006, Amlee pleaded guilty to one count each of stealing U.S. Property; shipping and transporting ammunition by a prohibited person; and, interstate transportation of stolen goods. Amlee was indicted on June 15, 2006, and remained on bond until October 18, 2006, when he was arrested in North Carolina and charged federally for two separate offenses of being in possession of firearms as a prohibited person. Today's assessed prison term will run consecutive to a 46-month federal prison sentence handed down on December 14, 2007, in the Middle District of North Carolina on the firearms charges.

Amlee's co-defendant Joey Kenneth Priddy, age 47, of Danville, Virginia, was sentenced in Alpine, Texas, on October 19, 2006, to 46 months in federal prison followed by three years of supervised release plus joint restitution for his role in the robberies.

The Fort Davis National Historical Site and Museum has been renovated since the early morning April 12, 2006, break-in. The seven antique firearms and one Bowie knife that were stolen by the defendants from the Fort Davis National Historical Site and Museum, as well as other items stolen from the Stillwell Museum and the Lajitas Resort, were returned on June 6, 2006, to federal and state law enforcement representatives in North Carolina. They have all been refurbished and returned to rightful places.

This case was investigated by the National Park Service Criminal Investigation Division out of El Paso, Texas; Albuquerque and Sante Fe, New Mexico; Denver, Colorado; and, Laury, Virginia; together with rangers from the Big Bend National Park and Fort Davis National Historical Site and Museum. The investigation was coordinated with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Presidio, Texas; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in North Carolina; the Texas Rangers; Moore County Sheriff's Office (North Carolina); and, the Brewster County and Jeff Davis County Sheriff's Offices (Texas). The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James J. Miller, Jr.